



Writing Native American Myths

American Literature- Miss Detrick and Mrs. Poole

Overview: You have read three Native American myths. Keeping in mind each story, develop a definition of mythology. Use the following questions to assist you in the development of your definition.

What were the three myths about? Do they remind you of any other stories that you've read or heard? What is important about how they were told?

Definition of Mythology:

Your Mission: Using what you know about Native American oral traditions, you will create your myth and present it to the class. Your myth will include an explanation of your beliefs or a natural event. You will be graded on creativity, originality, and your use of descriptive language and imagery. Your final paper should double-spaced and typed. You may be creative in your visual presentation of your myth (ex. Times New Roman is not required! Use some clip art or different fonts to make it look nice!). Edit and revise your assignment before printing your final draft.



Oral presentations will begin on **Friday, September 3**. Props may be used (and are encouraged) to add to your presentation.

Rubric:

Creativity	/10
Originality	/10
Use of descriptive language and imagery	/10
Mechanics and grammar	/10
Oral presentation	/10
Total:	/50

Ideas: (You may use one of the starters below or create your own... just be sure to follow the format of a myth)

How the turtle's shell was formed
Why the skunk developed an odor
How the bear lost its tail
How the rattlesnake got its rattle

How the cactus came to be
How elephants got their trunks
How the hermit crab got its shell
How the rose got its thorns.